



*As reprinted from 08/22/2008*

## **Senate forest management task force scheduled to meet in Show Low Aug. 28**

STATE CAPITOL - Sen. Sylvia Allen, R-Snowflake, will open her first meeting Thursday, Aug 28, as chair of the Senate Ad Hoc Task Force on Forest Management with a presentation on the state budget deficit by State Treasurer Dean Martin.

The agenda also includes the Forest Service Travel Management Rule, forest revenue and the economic status of Arizona's ranchers.

The task force will hear testimony on the economic impact of the Forest Service's proposed Travel Management Rule that will close many roads, change allowable camping sites and impose other restrictions.

"Our rural counties have moved strongly into a recreation economy, and the fear is that road closures will negatively affect revenues as well as compound the problem for a future return of forest product industries," Allen said.

Martin is expected to give an in-depth presentation of projected state revenues to spur discussion on the continuing deficit's impact on cities and counties and how it impacts critical decisions for elected officials.

Navajo and Apache county officials and business leaders will attend the meeting at 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 28, at the Show Low Council Chambers, 550 N. Ninth Place.

The meeting is open to the public. A link to the full agenda can be found at:

<http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/iagenda/senate/082808+forest+management%2E1%2E2r%2Edoc%2Ehtm>.